

SUPPLEMENTAL LESSONS

English Grade 8
3rd Quarter



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3rd Quarter Grade 8 Supplemental Lesson Plan

Focus: Identify religious texts and myths in South Asia

Introduction/Preparatory Activities

Ask the students to watch a video with persuasive speech.

Example: <http://www.teachertube.com/video/angelina-jolie-persuasive-speech-218620>

Body/Developmental Activities

1. Discuss the speech with the students. Ask the following questions:
 - a. What is the speaker talking about?
 - b. Do you agree with him or her?
 - c. Why do you agree or disagree with him or her?
 - d. Indicate which part of the speech you agree or disagree with.
2. Indicate that a good persuasive speech includes the following:
 - a. **Understand the subject well.** Go over why you feel the way you do about the subject and consider the different challenges that you had to overcome to get to the point where you began feeling this way. Find a subject which you are passionate about. The listener does not want to hear a speech about something that you don't even care about.
 - b. **Research your audience, understand their perception of the subject, and try your best to learn what obstacles are in place to block them from seeing the subject from your point of view.** Write these obstacles down.
 - c. **Acknowledge obstacles.** You should not ignore obstacles, but rather prepare for, and conquer them. Search for answers around these obstacles. If you do, people who come across these obstacles during your speech will ignore you. You have to find ways around or through these obstacles to help your audience do the same. To be successful, you have to lead your audience, not assume or even demand that they "understand you."
 - d. **Note your strategies and ideas.** Write down the obstacles and your methods for getting around them down, and put them in a logical order format. Turn each of the obstacles into a paragraph explaining the method of understanding that gets around the obstacle.
 - e. **Link where necessary.** If needed, write paragraphs linking the "obstacle" paragraphs together in a logical order. When this is done, you should have a rough draft of your speech.

- f. **Practice your speech privately, in front of a mirror.** Make notes on what sounds awkward and what doesn't flow or transition well. Logical flow is a strong tool of a persuasive speech, and without it, a speech is difficult to understand, much less be persuasive. During this process, adjust your speech for the time allowed and correct any errors.
- g. **Discover your weaknesses.** Do you happen to say "um" frequently in between sentences or topics? Do you use your hands too much, or not enough by keeping them in your pockets? Avoid these and other bad habits so that you can work towards changing them. Speak with a clear voice, avoiding a monotone, and use your hands casually to emphasize points.
- h. **Polish your introduction.** After editing your speech, add an attention story to the beginning. An attention story is a short story that is not related to the subject that highlights a problem that is similar to the problem that you are trying to overcome in your speech. A perfect introduction will: (1) get attention [use something like an analogy or story], (2) establish rapport [means goodwill, something your audience can relate to], and (3) preview what the rest of your speech will be about.
- i. **Continue editing.** After adding your attention story, edit your speech further again and try not to add last minute ideas.
- j. **Practice your speech publicly, in a small group.** Perform it in front of people who agree with your perception of the subject. Welcome their feedback and any obstacles that they might think will become visible. Edit your speech again for any changes, always adjusting the size of your speech for the time allowed. Also, do not stand in one spot (unless on camera), as moving around a bit will help to keep your audience focused because it establishes a sense of interactivity. Engage your audience with your movements and eye contact. Look directly at individuals in your audience, changing your gaze every so often. If a few particular audience members smile in response, remember them as a focal point. They may provide visual support and encouragement if you falter a bit during your speech.
- k. **Practice your speech again privately, in front of the mirror.** Try to learn your speech as much as you can to where your notes are mainly just to keep you on track. What your expressions and your mannerisms, make sure that you use voice inflection and that you have emotion in your speech. If there is no emotion in your voice or body, more than likely, there won't be any in the audience either.
- l. **Dress appropriately for the gathering where your speech will be held.** Be confident, caring, and humble.
- m. **Give your speech.** Prepare yourself ahead of time with your own positive encouragement and praise. If you find it helpful, give yourself verbal encouragement in front of a mirror. Alternatively, seek the encouragement of a friend or co-worker.

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- n. **Make sure that your speech really focuses on the topic, and that it is coherent and united (in the sense that all items are more or less related to the topic).**

Source: <http://www.wikihow.com/Write-a-Persuasive-Speech>

Conclusion/Evaluation

1. Ask the students to prepare their own persuasive speech.
2. They can choose from the following list or make their own topic:
 - a. Doctor-assisted suicide should (or should not) be legal.
 - b. Spammers—people who bombard Internet users with unsolicited e-mail—should (or should not) be allowed to send their junk mail.
 - c. Every car driver should (or should not) be required to take a new driver's test every three years.
 - d. Every student should (or should not) be required to learn a foreign language.
 - e. Solar power is (or is not) a viable alternate energy source.
 - f. Drug addicts should (or should not) be put in hospitals for medical treatment instead of in prisons for punishment.
 - g. All health professionals should (or should not) be tested annually for HIV infection and AIDS.
 - h. Assault weapons should (or should not) be outlawed.
 - i. The death penalty for murderers should (or should not) be abolished.
 - j. Smoking should (or should not) be banned in public areas, such as restaurants and airport terminals.